

Application No. 10/536,974
AMENDMENT of May 25, 2010
Reply to Office Action of February 25, 2010

Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An alcohol beverage dispensing apparatus comprising:

a keg having a self-contained bag filled with an alcohol beverage, said keg having a curved side wall;

a pressure system adapted to maintain a gas pressure in the keg against the bag to assist in the dispensing of the beverage from the dispensing apparatus, the pressure system comprising:

a keg gas valve mounted to the keg to permit entry of pressurized gas into the keg;

a pressure reservoir having a curved wall adapted to surround in adjacent relation a portion of the curved side wall of the keg and which is mounted in the apparatus outside the keg and in fluid flow communication with the keg gas valve, the pressure reservoir storing a charge of pressurized gas and being adapted to supply at least a portion of the charge of pressurized gas into the keg through the keg gas valve when the dispensing apparatus is operated to dispense the beverage, wherein

the pressure system further comprises a gas compressor connected with the pressure reservoir for charging the reservoir with pressurized gas prior to the dispensing apparatus being operated to dispense the beverage.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the gas is air.

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4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the pressure system further comprises a pressure switch connected in fluid communication between the pressure reservoir and the keg gas valve, and the pressure switch enabling pressurized gas to flow from the reservoir into the keg through the keg gas valve when beverage is dispensed from the bag.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1 wherein the compressor continues to charge the reservoir during dispensing of the beverage from the dispensing apparatus until air pressure in the pressure reservoir reaches a predetermined pressure level.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1 wherein the compressor comprises a reciprocal pump adapted to draw gas into the pump on an intake stroke and adapted to force gas out of the pump during an out-take stroke.

8. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 7 wherein the pump has a first one-way pump valve connected to the pump to permit gas to enter the pump and a second one-way pump valve connected to the pump to permit gas to exit the pump and remain in the pressure reservoir.

9. (Previously Amended) A home beer dispensing apparatus comprising:
a keg having a curved side wall and a self-contained bag filled with a beer;

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a pressure system adapted to create a pressurized air space between the keg inner walls and the bag to assist in the dispensing of the beer from the dispensing apparatus, the pressure system comprising:

a keg one-way air valve mounted to a top wall of the keg to permit entry of pressurized air into the keg;

a pressure reservoir having a curved wall adapted to surround in adjacent relation a portion of the curved side wall of the keg and which is mounted in the apparatus outside the keg and in fluid flow communication with the keg one-way valve, the pressure reservoir storing a charge of pressurized air and being adapted to supply at least a portion of the charge of pressurized air to the keg through the keg air valve when the dispensing apparatus is operated to dispense the beverage; and,

an air compressor connected with the pressurized reservoir for charging the reservoir with pressurized air.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 9 wherein the pressure system further comprises a pressure switch connected in fluid communication between the pressure reservoir and the keg air valve, and the pressure switch enabling pressurized air to flow from the reservoir into the keg through the keg air valve when beverage is dispensed from the bag.

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12. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 11 wherein the compressor continues to charge the reservoir during dispensing of the beer from the dispensing apparatus until air pressure in the pressure reservoir reaches a predetermined pressure level.

13. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 9 wherein the compressor comprises a reciprocal pump adapted to draw air into the pump on an intake stroke and adapted to force air out of the pump and into the reservoir during an out-take stroke.

14. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the pump has a first one-way pump valve connected to the pump to permit gas to enter the pump and a second one-way pump valve connected to the pump to permit gas to exit the pump and enter the pressure reservoir.

15-38. (Canceled)